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riences in *affaires du cœur*; but other great men, long before and even since Socrates, have behaved awkwardly in seeking for a wife, and have even been unfortunately mated.

The Wesleys had many instances in their revival services of persons who acted like the demoniacs of Christ's day, as they passed through the experience of conversion—violent physical agitation, prostration, outcries, imprecations, and finally the emerging of a cleansed and pacified moral life. But these revival phenomena were less the effect of sensational preaching than they were the symptoms of that strangely pathological condition of moral life in England which was too weak to do more than to stagger into an apprehension of the Gospel of Righteousness when it was proclaimed in strong but simple terms.

WILLIAM EDWARDS HUNTINGTON.

Etudes sur l'Histoire Économique de la France (1760–1789). Par CAMILLE BLOCH. Preface de M. ÉMILE LEVASSEUR. (Paris: Alphonse Picard et Fils. 1900. Pp. ix, 269.)

THIS volume contains several essays on distinct phases of the old régime in France such as the municipal assemblies of 1787, the *cahiers*, the treaty of commerce of 1786. The most noteworthy of them are those on "Le Commerce des Grains dans la Généralité d'Orléans" and "La Répartition de la Propriété Foncière à la veille de la Révolution dans quelques paroisses de la Généralité d'Orléans." The latter touches the question of the amount of land owned by the peasantry, a subject on which opinion is still seriously divided. It would be difficult to answer such a question on the basis of an investigation of so narrow a field as the *généralité* of Orleans, and yet the state of affairs which M. Bloch has discovered in Orleans is doubly interesting because of its relation to the larger problem.

M. Bloch has drawn his inferences from the rolls for the *vingtièmes* in fifteen typical parishes. Although the returns are not in all cases complete or reliable he regards them as better than the returns for the *taille*, and as sufficiently trustworthy considering the scope of his inquiry. The statistical tables with which he supplements his treatment of the subject render his investigation useful in examining features of it to which he does not call special attention. He is interested in the holdings of the peasants rather than in the amount of land possessed by the Third Estate as a whole. His tables answer nearly all the questions one would like to ask, but they do not indicate the number of peasants who owned no land, because the returns include only the proprietors. Some of the figures are unusually instructive. Out of 35,707 arpents in the fifteen parishes the peasants held 15,947, the peasants and the bourgeois together, 22,828. In three parishes the peasants held more than the bourgeois, nobles, and ecclesiastics put together: in eight they held more than the nobles. M. Bloch finds that the peasant holdings were generally small; the three sets of proprietors with which they are compared held from one and one-half to forty times as much per individual.

If the parishes M. Bloch has studied could be regarded as typical of France the conclusion must be drawn that the amount of land held by the peasants has been underestimated. Certainly he has chosen the right method for the solution of the problem, namely, the study of the parishes. If other scholars do for other *généralités* what he has done for Orleans the answer will speedily be forthcoming.

His essay on the grain trade in the same *généralité* explains the reasons for the failure of the attempt in 1763 and 1764 to free this trade from the restrictions which had been thrown about it since the sixteenth century. The fate of this first experiment makes clearer the obstacles against which Turgot was to struggle. M. Bloch presents tables, based on the market records, showing the price of wheat on every market day from January 1763 to January 1769. It is apparent that the price rose steadily from the end of 1764 to the latter part of 1768. The principal causes were the partial failure of the crops after 1764 and the consequent exhaustion of the surplus wheat accumulated in the granaries. Naturally such a rise of price affected the fortunes of the experiment, and M. Bloch has shown through the correspondence which passed between the ministers and the intendant, M. de Cypierre, how the government was frightened into a practical abandonment of the plan. Indeed although the ministers were convinced partisans of the régime of liberty they were so completely dominated by the habits of administrative paternalism that they had seriously interfered with the success of the scheme from the beginning. As soon as the rise in price became alarming the intendant began to complain in his letters of the conduct of speculators who bought the grain in the sheaf or in the granaries, without waiting until it was brought to market. He discovered that some of these speculators were buying "pour le compte et aux risques des intéressés," a powerful company not otherwise designated. In replying to his complaints the ministers made light of his fears and urged him not to intervene lest the people become alarmed ; they gave him no information about the "company." Finally, however, in September, 1768, they acknowledge that there was a company with which the King had made a contract for the stocking of several magazines near Paris in order to provide against a shortage in the crops and a consequent famine. The ministers declare that the existence of such a contract did not justify the acts of particular speculators. But M. Bloch points out how the trade would be disorganized by the appearance of the agents of a company backed by royal credit. The operations of these men would excite the suspicions of the people and would give rise to the rumors which were at last transformed into the "Pacte de Famine." Indeed the existence of such a contract was nearly all the truth behind the terrible charge. The ministers had acted in good faith, but they had been dominated by their traditions rather than by the theories of the economists to which they professed so sincere a conversion. And M. de Cypierre's letters show that he was no more consistent than they, for he was over ready to bring back the old regulations as soon as the speculators appeared. M. Bloch sums up the situation clearly

in the following words: "Ainsi, d'une part, un administrateur éclairé et généreux qui réclame les mesures les plus contraires à la liberté dont il est partisan; d'autre part, un gouvernement réformateur, désireux de corriger les erreurs administratives de ses prédécesseurs en matière de céréales, qui conserve sous la liberté les habitudes de la prohibition et rend impossible le commerce qu'il prétend favoriser."

HENRY E. BOURNE.

Kléber et Menou en Égypte depuis le Départ de Bonaparte, Août 1799—Septembre 1801. Documents publiés pour la Société d'Histoire Contemporaine par M. F. ROUSSEAU. (Paris: Alphonse Picard et Fils. 1900. Pp. lix, 455.)

THIS volume contains the correspondence of Generals Kléber and Menou as commanders of the French army in Egypt from the return of Bonaparte to France August 22, 1799, to the final capitulation. The Kléber papers extend from August 25, 1799, to June 14, 1800 (on which day Kléber was assassinated), those of Menou from June 16, 1800, to November 21, 1801. The papers comprise letters of these commanders, nearly all official, to the French government, to the English and Turkish commanders, to the civil and military authorities in Egypt, and to the French agents at the English and Turkish headquarters; as well as general administrative decrees and *ordres du jour*. In addition there are a number of letters from Menou to Kléber and to authorities in France, written during the period of Kléber's command. It is evident therefore (though it is nowhere explicitly stated) that the collection is intended to embrace only papers emanating from Kléber and Menou, and we are left to infer that it is in this sense exhaustive. The Kléber papers number 325, those of Menou 65; these are all printed *in extenso*, and in addition there is an appendix containing 41 Menou papers in briefest abstract.

We have here thus only one side (though the main one), of these two years in Egypt; we have no communications from the home government, from the English and Turks, nor from the diplomatic agents of the commanders. A peculiar feature is that 171 of the 390 documents had already been printed. It is true that some of these earlier publications are now difficult of access (as the "*Pièces relatives à l'Armée d'Orient*," published 1801); but there are few such, and fully a hundred of the 325 Kléber papers are taken from Pajol's *Kléber*, (published 1877). The source of the document is always carefully indicated, but it is annoying to find most of them without any place of writing shown. The editing otherwise seems careful; the introduction acutely discusses the characteristics of Kléber and Menou, and presents a judicious narrative on the basis of these papers and some supplementary material; the documents are accompanied by helpful notes. The publication of course cannot be presented as a full documentary presentation of the matter, and it does not seem likely to materially